UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22022
20 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming the obligations of Member States under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war set forth in Security Council resolution 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967,

Having received the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990 on ways and means of ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation, 1/ and taking note in particular of paragraphs 20 to 26 thereof,

Taking note of the interest of the Secretary-General to visit and send his envoy to pursue his initiative with the Israeli authorities, as indicated in paragraph 22 of his report, and of their recent invitation extended to him,

Gravely concerned at the dangerous deterioration of the situation in all the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and at the violence and rising tension in Israel,

Taking into consideration the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 20 December 1990 2/ concerning the method and approach for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict,

Recalling its resolutions 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988, 608 (1988) of 14 January 1988, 636 (1989) of July 1989 and 641 (1989) of 30 August 1989, and alarmed by the decision of the Government of Israel to deport four Palestinians

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1/ S/21919.

2/ S/22027.

from the occupied territories in contravention of its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 1949, 3/

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report;

2. Expresses its grave concern over the rejection by Israel of Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990 and 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990;

3. Deplores the decision by the Government of Israel, the occupying Power, to resume the deportation of Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories;

4. Urges the Government of Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 1949, to all the territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the said Convention;

5. Calls upon the high contracting parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 1949, to ensure respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for its obligations under the Convention in accordance with article 1 thereof;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to develop further the idea expressed in his report of convening a meeting of the high contracting parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention and to discuss possible measures that might be taken by them under the Convention and for this purpose to invite the parties to submit their views on how the idea could contribute to the goals of the Convention, as well as on other relevant matters, and to report thereon to the Council;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to monitor and observe the situation regarding Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation, making new efforts in this regard on an urgent basis, and to utilize and designate or draw upon the United Nations and other personnel and resources present there, in the area and elsewhere, needed to accomplish this task and to keep the Security Council regularly informed;

8. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a first progress report to the Security Council by the first week of March 1991 and every four months thereafter, and decides to remain seized of the matter as necessary.

3/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

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S/22023
20 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 20 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SEYCHELLES TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Seychelles to the United Nations presents his compliments to the President of the Security Council and has the honour to request that the following presentation made to the Working Group of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

READEX FICHE

Annex

Presentation made on 17 December 1990 by the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Seychelles to the Working Group of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Seychelles is a geographically remote, sea-locked multi-island developing country with limited resources relying for its economic prosperity on the performance of its principal tourism and fisheries sectors. The economy is, as a result, highly vulnerable to exogenously determined forces.

As a consequence of Seychelles' location, economic structure and concomitant import dependence, it has been placed in an extremely difficult economic position because of the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait and the implementation of Security Council resolution 661 (1990).

The Government of Seychelles has fully complied with the provisions of Security Council resolution 661 (1990), adopted on 6 August 1990, to impose economic sanctions on Iraq.

The observance by Seychelles of the United Nations sanctions régime against Iraq has had significant adverse consequences for the Seychelles economy. Some of those effects have been experienced immediately while other detrimental impacts will be manifested in the coming period owing to the time lags.

This brief, preliminary assessment seeks to show that the Seychelles' situation warrants financial assistance from the international community for as long as Security Council resolution 661 (1990) remains in force.

The immediate impact of the political crisis in the Gulf sharply raised aircraft fuel and insurance premiums, engendering in turn a hike in the cost structure of the tourism industry, the mainstay of the economy. The re-export of oil, mostly as bunker sales to the locally based tuna fishing fleet and to a lesser extent to transiting aircraft, was sharply disrupted. The lucrative oil re-export business, and with it, the foreign exchange margin, which had by and large financed the domestic consumption of petroleum products in recent years, went into a downturn.

Although it may be argued to the contrary that there is an unexpected benefit concerning the re-export of oil, this would be erroneous.

Because of the crisis any increase in bunkering costs has been offset by maintaining very low licensing fees for foreign purse seiners, e.g., the recent agreement between the Seychelles Fishing Authority and Nippon Maru, where the licence fee was held at the same level as at 1986 prices.

The energy requirements of Seychelles are met through imports of petroleum, which is one of the major commodities significantly affecting the balance of payments. The cost of petroleum imports accounts for more than 25 per cent of the country's import bill or 169 million Seychelles rupees, a/ or $US 30 million (1989).

Therefore the whole economy depends on getting the cheapest possible petroleum at favourable terms of credit and from the closest distance.

Prior to the political crisis in the Gulf region, Seychelles was entirely dependent on Kuwait for oil supplies. Those supplies were transacted under preferential terms and conditions. Kuwaiti oil was purchased on 45 days' credit which permitted Seychelles 15 days extra grace to pay refining costs, instead of the normal 30 days.

The price was based on a five-day arithmetic mean of oil spot prices in the Arab free-on-board market for all products, with the exception of motor gasoline.

Also, because the supply was assured in addition to the extra 15 days' credit, it was necessary for Seychelles to maintain only minimum stocks of all fuel types. Those stocks could be replenished easily because of Kuwait's proximity to Seychelles, being only 10 days' sailing time away. As a consequence of the aforesaid, the country did not experience a bunching of payment or a liquidity problem.

The political crisis in the Gulf and Seychelles' adherence to United Nations sanctions against Iraq effectively severed the country's regular supply of oil and simultaneously resulted in the loss of the Kuwaiti oil financing facility.

Seychelles has been especially affected by the steep rise in the price of oil since it has no alternative sources of energy or oil refineries of its own. In this regard, it will be recalled that the price of refined oil has increased to an even greater extent than that of crude oil.

On 31 July 1990, the country's stock was at the minimum requirement level. Also, two cargo loads of oil were on order from Kuwait in August, amounting to 12,000 tons at pre-crisis prices. As a result of the political situation in the Gulf, that arrangement could not be finalized.

Seychelles was compelled to purchase, in August, on the open Bahrain spot market with only 30 days' credit, instead of 45 days. To meet the situation, the Seychelles Petroleum Company began stockpiling at high cost from August 1990 onwards. This means that, in the last quarter of 1990, Seychelles has spent an extra $2 million.

In addition, the need to make bulk purchases of petroleum products on the spot market gave rise to a liquidity problem and this will be reflected in the balance of payments in 1991.

Given the current situation, provisional estimates for 1991 indicate that the purchase of petroleum imports would result in an additional cost of $12.5 million, giving rise to a loss of $4.1 million.

The quantification on the balance of payments given below is based on actual performance up to July 1990, and assumes that payments for imports and oil imports will rise by 15 per cent.

The following forecast can be made: based on actual performance up to July 1990, and assuming a 15 per cent rise in the price of imports, the overall balance of payments is expected to post a deficit of SR 36 million ($6.5 million), giving rise to a cumulative deficit of SR 72 million ($13 million) for 1990 and 1991.

Seychelles is almost wholly dependent on tourism earnings. 1988 earnings from tourism were SR 515 million. The gross domestic product (GDP) at current market prices in 1988 was SR 1,523.9 million. Thus, tourist income alone as a percentage of GDP was around 33 per cent at current market prices in 1988. The gross national product (GNP) was SR 1,430.3 million in 1988, indicating tourist earnings as 36 per cent of GNP.

However, the value added to GDP from the tourist sector in the form of transport, hotel services, etc., has not been included in these percentages.

There are other relevant aspects to the tourist industry which must be mentioned here. These aspects are: (a) tourist bookings for 1990 do not give a picture of the impact of the crisis on Seychelles because over 75 per cent of tourist arrivals were pre-booked and planned long before; (b) a large percentage of the remaining 25 per cent is low-budget tourists who spend very little foreign exchange in the country; and (c) around 80 per cent of tourist income is spent on imports, of which imports for the tourist trade stand at a very high percentage. Most of the big hotels have raised their rates from 3 to 8 per cent and the small hotels by 7 per cent.

The impact of the crisis on domestic prices and trade tax as at 5 September 1990 has been estimated as follows:

(a) The price of gasoline is up from SR 5.21 ($0.9) per litre to SR 6.51 ($1.18) per litre;

(b) AV gas is up from SR 5.87 ($1.06) per litre to SR 7.00 ($1.3) per litre;

(c) Jet A-I is up from SR 2.98 ($0.54) per litre to SR 3.77 ($0.68) per litre;

(d) Spirit-type jet fuel is up from SR 5.87 ($1.06) per litre to SR 7.00 ($1.27) per litre.

As at 5 September 1990, trade tax losses, which by the nature of the tax mechanism are exactly equal to the additional foreign exchange cost of domestic fuel consumption, are expected to be SR 11.5 million ($2.0 million) from August to December 1990.

The fiscal effects of trade tax losses and other spill-over effects are expected to add to the total budgetary cost to the Government in the region of SR 8 million to SR 50 million ($2 million-$9 million) in 1990.

The need to pay spot cash for oil as and when necessary is creating and will fuel a liquidity problem which cannot be quantified at this time.

In conclusion, time-lagged detrimental impacts in the future would be exacerbated by possible economic fluctuations in the world economy, such as a recession accompanied with inflation. Thus, the impact on the economy particularly the balance of payments and budget via tourism earnings cannot be fully quantified at this moment in time.

Notes

a/ SR 5.50 = $US 1.00

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S/22024
20 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The attached letter, dated 20 December 1990, was addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Observer of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations. In accordance with the request contained in the letter, the text is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 20 December 1990 from the Permanent Observer of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward to you a memorandum of the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning Korea's membership in the United Nations.

(Signed) Hong-choo HYUN
Permanent Observer of the
Republic of Korea
to the United Nations

Enclosure

Memorandum of the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning Korea's membership in the United Nations

The forty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations has provided a crucial momentum for membership of the Republic of Korea in the United Nations.

During the general debate of the General Assembly, nearly three quarters of the United Nations membership addressed the "Korea question" in their national statements. The majority of these speakers voiced, in an unequivocal and forceful manner, their support for the admission of the Republic of Korea to membership in the United Nations, either separately, or together with North Korea, if the latter wishes to do so.

In welcoming the admission of Namibia and of the Principality of Liechtenstein, most speakers emphasized that universal United Nations membership for all States is essential to the work of the United Nations, particularly as it is assuming a central role in the new world order.

It has also been pointed out that the admission of the Republic of Korea, preferably together with that of North Korea, can be effected without prejudice to the ultimate goal of Korea's reunification. Many speakers found, in the unification of the two Germanies and the two Yemens, the validation of the position of the Republic of Korea that the dual membership of divided nations does not constitute any impediment to their ultimate unification, but rather facilitates the process of dialogue and co-operation towards that goal within the framework of the United Nations.

These developments have led to the belief that the sense of the General Assembly has now emerged that Korea should be fully represented at the United Nations without further delay, thus ending the last remaining legacy of the cold war within the United Nations.

Special attention should be drawn to the fact that not a single country advocated the "single-seat membership" formula proposed by North Korea. The silence of the entire United Nations membership on this proposal simply demonstrates its disapproval of this impracticable North Korean formula.

The Government of the Republic of Korea avails itself of this opportunity to express deep gratitude to those Member States that expressed their support for its legitimate cause.

South and North Korea have been engaged in historic inter-Korean Prime Ministers' talks since September 1990. During the three rounds of talks held in September, October and December, both sides discussed a wide range of issues of mutual concern, particularly ways to promote inter-Korean exchanges and to build confidence in political and military areas.

Although the issue of United Nations membership is a matter between an applicant State and the United Nations, not subject to any extraneous considerations, the Republic of Korea made use of these occasions to exchange views with North Korea on the issue of Korea's membership in the United Nations. This particular issue has been the subject of several separate meetings of senior government experts from both sides, and of other bilateral contacts, not only inter-Korean, but also among the concerned countries.

During the course of all of these meetings and contacts, the Republic of Korea has made every effort in good faith to respond to the wishes of the Korean people and the international community for the early and full representation of the Republic of Korea, desirably together with North Korea, as was expressed during the general debate, and has made it clear that it will not oppose, but assist North Korea's entry into the United Nations.

The Republic of Korea has also pointed to many problems inherent in the North Korean formula and has made realistic proposals towards the realization of the parallel membership of both Koreas, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Republic of Korea has proposed, inter alia, that:

(a) In seeking separate membership in the United Nations as an interim measure pending unification, both Koreas publicly pledge to work towards their reunification;

(b) After both Koreas have been admitted to the United Nations, they develop a special mode of co-operation, as they participate in the work of the United Nations, to facilitate and strengthen the process of unification.

In its sincere hope to make progress in the issue of Korea's membership in the United Nations, the Government of the Republic of Korea has endeavoured through all available opportunities and possible channels to persuade North Korea to join the United Nations together with the South.

Despite the exhaustive efforts of the Republic of Korea, however, North Korea has shown no sign of change in its adherence to the "single seat membership" formula.

Under these circumstances, the Republic of Korea is not hopeful about the prospects of any positive outcome from bilateral discussions on the issue of Korea's membership in the foreseeable future.

Though the Republic of Korea is open to any reasonable suggestions for realizing simultaneous membership and welcomes any discussions for this purpose, it sees little usefulness in further considering the North Korean formula.

While universal United Nations membership certainly contributes to the strengthening of international security in general, as emphasized in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, simultaneous membership of both Koreas in

particular will constitute a powerful confidence-building measure through the commitment of both parties to the Charter and will serve the best interests of all parties concerned, including the United Nations.

In this regard, the Government of the Republic of Korea earnestly hopes that North Korea will be soon forthcoming to the constructive proposal of the Republic of Korea.

However, in the case that North Korea is found to be unwilling or not yet ready to join the United Nations with the South, the Republic of Korea will exercise its sovereign right to seek United Nations membership independently, whenever the time is appropriate.

In response to the prevailing atmosphere of the world community in favour of its early admission, the Government of the Republic of Korea seeks the continued support of the Member States to ensure that Korea will be fully represented at the United Nations with the blessing of the entire United Nations membership during the course of next year.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 30
CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 14 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of the Gambia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request that the attached document, entitled "Economic Community of West African States, First Extraordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government, Bamako, 27-28 November 1990, Final Communiqué", be issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ousman A. SALLAH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Economic Community of West African States

First Extraordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government

Bamako, 27 and 28 November 1990

Final Communiqué

1. The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held its first ever Extraordinary Session on 27 and 28 November 1990 at Bamako under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Gambia and current Chairman of the Authority. The session was attended by the following Heads of State and Government or their accredited representatives:

His Excellency General Mathiew Kerekou
President of the Republic of Benin

His Excellency Captain Blaise Compaore
Chairman of the Popular Front
Head of State
Head of Government
Burkina Faso

His Excellency Mr. Aristides Maria Pereira
President of the Republic of Cape Verde

His Excellency Mr. Félix Houphouet Boigny
President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara
President of the Republic of the Gambia

His Excellency Flight-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings
Chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council
Head of State of the Republic of Ghana

His Excellency General Joao Bernardo Vieira
Secretary-General of the PAIGC
President of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau

His Excellency General Moussa Traore
Secretary-General of the Democratic Union of Malian People
President of the Republic of Mali

His Excellency General Ali Saibou
Chairman of the Supreme Council for National Orientation
Head of State of the Republic of the Niger

His Excellency General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida
President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

His Excellency Mr. Abdou Diouf
President of the Republic of Senegal

His Excellency Major-General Dr. Joseph Saidu Momoh
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

His Excellency General Gnassingbe' Eyadema
Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally
President of the Togolese Republic

Honourable Commandant Facine Toure
Minister of Transport and Works, Representing the President of the Republic of Guinea

Honourable Hasni Ould Didi
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Representing the President of the Republic of Mauritania

2. Present at the summit as special guest was His Excellency Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity

3. Also attending the summit in an observer capacity were the representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the regional representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Report of the Standing Mediation Committee

4. The Chairman of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, submitted a report to the Extraordinary Summit on the activities of the Committee. The Authority noted the report and expressed its appreciation to the members of the Committee for the initiative taken in finding a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Liberia. It particularly expressed gratitude for the human, financial and material contributions these member States had made on behalf of the Community towards the restoration of peace and stability in Liberia.

Review of the Liberian situation

5. In reviewing the current situation in Liberia, the Authority noted that the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) had succeeded in establishing calm in Monrovia and its immediate environs. This measure of success had made it possible for both ECOMOG and international relief agencies to carry out humanitarian relief work and for tens of thousands of foreign nationals, including ECOWAS citizens, who

had been trapped in Liberia without any means of escape or protection, to be evacuated. The Authority expressed the hope that permanent peace and harmony would soon be restored throughout the territory of Liberia.

Endorsement of ECOWAS peace plan

6. The Authority endorsed the ECOWAS peace plan for Liberia as embodied in the Banjul communiqué and decisions of the Standing Mediation Committee adopted on 7 August 1990. The ECOWAS peace plan, among other things, calls for:

(a) A complete cease-fire and cessation of destruction of life and property;

(b) ECOWAS monitoring of the cease-fire;

(c) The establishment of a broad-based interim government acceptable to the people of Liberia;

(d) The holding of general and presidential elections within 12 months;

(e) Observation of the elections by ECOWAS and other international bodies to ensure that they are free and fair.

7. The Authority noted with satisfaction that the ECOWAS peace plan had received the widest acceptance and support from Liberians and the international community.

Signing of the cease-fire agreement

8. In giving practical effect to this ECOWAS peace plan for Liberia, the Authority stressed the urgent need for a comprehensive cease-fire to be observed by all the warring parties as a necessary condition for the return of peace and normalcy throughout the territory of Liberia. The Authority therefore warmly commended the two warring parties - the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) and the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) - who had agreed to observe a cease-fire and had signed a cease-fire agreement at Banjul on 24 October 1990.

9. At the Extraordinary Session of the Authority at Bamako, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPLF) - the third party to the conflict in Liberia - expressed its readiness to join in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict. The Authority noted with pleasure the acceptance by the NPLF and the other warring parties not only of the ECOWAS peace plan for Liberia as embodied in the communiqué and decisions of 7 August 1990 of the Community Standing Mediation Committee, but also their declaration of a cease-fire, which shall come into effect immediately. The Authority urged that the details for the implementation of the cease-fire should be worked out as soon as possible. It expressed the sincere hope that this declaration of cease-fire would mark the complete cessation of all hostilities as the necessary foundation for the return of lasting peace, stability and political accommodation and reconciliation of Liberia.

Collective responsibility for ECOMOG

10. Acknowledging that the membership of ECOMOG had never been closed even though the burden of the implementation of the ECOWAS peace plan has so far fallen entirely on the members of the Standing Mediation Committee, the Authority appealed to all other members of the Community able and willing to do so to contribute forces to the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group in order to enlarge its peace-keeping capability. It also appealed to all member States that had not yet done so to make generous contributions to the special emergency fund for the ECOWAS operations in Liberia. The Authority further called upon all other African Governments and the rest of the international community to contribute to the special emergency fund.

11. The Authority also considered the necesssity for an agreement to be concluded between ECOWAS and the Interim Government of Liberia with respect to the status and operations of the Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) in Liberia. To this end, the Authority mandated the Executive Secretary to sign an agreement with the Interim Government of Liberia after approval by the Chairman of the Authority.

Agreement on interim governance of Liberia

12. The Authority urgently invited the parties to the conflict in Liberia to enter into dialogue with a view to reaching a political accommodation for the governance of Liberia within the framework of the ECOWAS peace plan. The Authority requested the Standing Mediation Committee to continue its efforts in encouraging such an accommodation between the Liberian groups.

Reaffirmation of the Protocol on Non-Aggression

13. The Authority strongly reiterated the imperative of securing peace and maintaining stability in the ECOWAS subregion as the necessary underpinning of economic co-operation and integration for the achievement of progress and prosperity in the Community. The Authority therefore considered it most tragic that while other regions of the world were making every effort to dismantle the apparatus of war and banish tensions and conflicts from their international relations, as evidenced by the widely acclaimed treaty of Paris recently signed by Governments at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, ECOWAS Heads of State and Government were compelled to meet in extraordinary conference to find ways of bringing to an early end the horrors of a civil war in a member State of the Community and containing the threat it posed to the peace, security and stability of the subregion.

14. Recalling that it had itself fully recognized the necessity for maintaining the peace and security of the subregion early in the life of the Community through the Protocol on Non-Aggression adopted on 22 April 1978, and believing that the Liberian crisis has given that Protocol a fresh validity, the Authority decided to reaffirm the provisions of the Protocol on Non-Aggression and to urge all member States to adhere fully to their obligations under it. In particular, the Authority

recalled the commitment by all member States to refrain from committing, encouraging or condoning acts of subversion, hostility or aggression against any other member State. It further called on all member States to refrain from any action that might prejudice or undermine the smooth and speedy implementation of the ECOWAS peace plan for Liberia.

Appeal for early return of refugees

15. The Authority expressed satisfaction at the progress made so far towards the restoration of peace and security in Monrovia. Considering that the declaration of a cease-fire by the parties to the conflict enlarges the prospect for the restoration of peace and security throughout Liberia, the Authority called on all Liberian refugees to plan an early return to Liberia, in order to join their compatriots in assisting the Interim Government in the implementation of its programme to return Liberia to democratic rule.

Appeal for international assistance to Liberia

16. The Authority made an urgent appeal to the international community, particularly its humanitarian relief organizations, to step up without further delay humanitarian relief work in Liberia with special emphasis on the provision of food, medical supplies and clothing. It also appealed to the international donor community to contribute generously to the efforts of the Interim Government in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the damaged economy of Liberia.

Vote of thanks

17. The Authority once more warmly commended and congratulated the Chairman and members of the Community Standing Mediation Committee for the timely initiatives taken on behalf of the entire Community to assist Liberians in their search for a lasting solution to the crisis in Liberia. The Authority expressed its appreciation for the excellent preparations made by the Committee, which had facilitated the deliberations of the Extraordinary Session.

18. The Authority expressed its sincere gratitude to His Excellency General Moussa Traore, Secretary-General of the Democratic Union of the Malian People and President of the Republic of Mali, and the entire Malian Government and people for the very warm and truly African welcome extended to all delegations and for the excellent facilities made available to ensure the success of its meetings.

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20 December 1990

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LETTER DATED 20 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF URUGUAY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorandum on the presentation made by Uruguay to the Working Group of the Committee established by Security Council resolution 661 (1990), which I beg you to distribute as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ramiro PIRIZ BALLON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Aide memoire on Uruguay's presentation to the Working Group of the Committee established by Security Council resolution 661 (1990)

Uruguay is a small country with a long and well-established tradition of honouring its international obligations as part of its commitment to strengthening international law. It therefore immediately abided by the sanctions imposed by resolution 661 (1990) and others and enacted the necessary domestic legislation to enforce the embargo against Iraq. This action was taken without hesitation, in spite of the serious, immediate and direct effects it would have upon the country's economy.

These effects are particularly negative given the present situation and prospects of the Uruguayan economy.

Economic situation of Uruguay

The economy of my country is and always has been heavily dependent on external factors. This is mainly due to the limitations of our domestic market plus our need to import two mainstays for our economic development: capital goods and oil. Thus, in order to finance our development we have to expand our exports.

Uruguay is essentially an agricultural and agro-industrial country. We rely heavily on the export of agricultural commodities. Under normal free market conditions our natural and human resources would allow us to harbour good expectations. However, discriminatory practices in the international markets and the emergence of extraordinary circumstances beyond our control can jeopardize our best efforts and highlight Uruguay's vulnerability to external factors.

To guard against these risks it was necessary to diversify and to find new markets. One of the results of this drive was that the countries of the Middle East and of the Persian Gulf, particularly Iraq, became important trade partners.

The ever-present need to increase our exports became even more imperative on account of our foreign debt and our determination not to default on its payments.

Note should be taken that all these challenges have to be met within the context of difficult economic and social problems.

Having opted for an economic model based on an open economy, Uruguay has engaged in a policy that entails very important structural adjustments such as reducing State intervention and expenditure and the adoption of measures directed at curtailing inflation, all of which have a high social and political cost.

In view of this situation, it is not difficult to understand the disastrous effects of the Gulf crisis on Uruguay's economy. Nor is it surprising that the

main international organizations dealing with world and regional economic and financial problems - such as the World Bank and the "Latin American Economic System" organization - have singled Uruguay out as one of the countries most affected by the current oil crisis.

Uruguay imports 100 per cent of its fuel requirements and uses it mainly for the transportation of goods and the generation of electricity. Therefore, the first impact of the crisis came as a sudden sharp rise in the price of its imports. The cost of Uruguay's oil imports for 1990 rose by almost $42 million, or the equivalent of 3 per cent of all estimated imports for 1990. The estimates for 1991 are no better but depend mostly on future developments of the crisis. In any case, additional expenditures for next year would equal 1 per cent of the gross national product.

This disastrous situation will serve as a framework to understand the very negative impact of the applications of the sanctions imposed on Iraq by the Security Council and duly observed by Uruguay.

Effects of the Security Council imposed embargo

For several years, the private sector in Uruguay, with official support, had tried to penetrate Middle East markets, particularly Iraq, and had begun to be increasingly successful as far as volume, prices and payment conditions were concerned.

Over the last few years Iraq became a very important buyer of beef, mutton and rice. As far as mutton is concerned, Iraq became the primary importer from Uruguay, rising from 2,000 tonnes to more than 15,000 tonnes in 1989. This represents 29 per cent of total mutton exports. The value of immediate losses as a result of the conflict is estimated at $22 million. However, since the market as a whole can be presumed to be lost because of this situation, at least in the foreseeable future, the actual figure would be closer to $34 million for 1990-1991. This is equal to 1 per cent of total exports for 1990 or 2 per cent of total exports estimated for 1991.

Efforts at replacing this market have so far proved very difficult, despite intense bilateral efforts, owing to well-known obstacles in the international market. Given the disappointing result of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade's Uruguay Round, particularly regarding agricultural products, the prospects are not encouraging.

The effect on the country's economy, however, is belied by these apparently minor figures. First, such large purchases are very important inputs to the stock management equation. Secondly, the mutton industry was highly dependent on these exports and as a direct result of no longer being able to sell to Iraq, private companies have been left on the verge of bankruptcy and have been forced to lay off up to 50 per cent of the work-force. Since this industry is the economic backbone of certain areas of the country, the ensuing social and related economic effects are potentially devastating to these areas owing to their multiplying effect and therefore to the economy as a whole.

In summary, the simple and very probable continuation of this situation will mean that Uruguay will lose $53.8 million from its trade balance in 1990 and $112 million in 1991. This latter figure is equal to 1.3 per cent of the gross national product or 5 per cent of estimated exports for this year.

This loss of income has obvious negative effects on Uruguay's capacity to save, invest and import, and on a wider sense on its economic growth, its unemployment rate and price levels.

In conclusion, the resulting damage to the Uruguayan economy is qualitatively and in terms of its own proportions very serious.

In our opinion, this whole situation is clearly covered by the provisions of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations, that is to say that there exists a special economic problem arising from the carrying out of the sanctions imposed by the Security Council.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22027
20 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the resumed 2970th meeting, on 20 December 1990, prior to the adoption of resolution 681 (1990), the President made the following statement on behalf of the members of the Security Council:

> The members of the Security Council reaffirm their determination to support an active negotiating process in which all relevant parties should participate leading to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace to the Arab-Israeli conflict through negotiations which should be based on resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) of the Security Council and which should take into account the right to security of all States in the region, including Israel, and the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people.
>
> In this context they agree that an international conference, at an appropriate time, properly structured, should facilitate efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement and lasting peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict.
>
> However, the members of the Council are of the view that there is not unanimity as to when would be the appropriate time for such a conference.
>
> In the view of the members of the Council, the Arab-Israeli conflict is important and unique and must be addressed independently, on its own merits.

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Security Council

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GENERAL

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31 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the resumed 2970th meeting, on 20 December 1990, prior to the adoption of resolution 681 (1990), the President made the following statement on behalf of the members of the Security Council:

The members of the Security Council reaffirm their determination to support an active negotiating process in which all relevant parties would participate leading to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace to the Arab-Israeli conflict through negotiations which should be based on resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) of the Security Council and which should take into account the right to security of all States in the region, including Israel, and the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people.

In this context they agree that an international conference, at an appropriate time, properly structured, should facilitate efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement and lasting peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

However, the members of the Council are of the view that there is not unanimity as to when would be the appropriate time for such a conference.

In the view of the members of the Council, the Arab-Israeli conflict is important and unique and must be addressed independently, on its own merits.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

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UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

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GENERAL

A/45/904
S/22028
21 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 43
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 20 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 19 December 1990, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Ozer Koray, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mustafa AKSIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 19 December 1990 from Mr. Özer Koray addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the letter dated 17 December 1990 addressed to you by H.E. Dr. Kenan Atakol, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see appendix).

(Signed) Özer KORAY
Representative of the
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

APPENDIX

Letter dated 17 December 1990 from Dr. Kenan Atakol addressed to the Secretary-General

In the light of the continued negative campaign of the Greek Cypriot side against resolution 649 (1990), I thought it pertinent to convey to you the appraisal of the Turkish Cypriot side regarding the matter.

Ever since the adoption of resolution 649 (1990) by the United Nations Security Council which, after 27 years of the Cyprus question being on its agenda, has, in the said resolution, adopted the right perspective as regards the status and the relationship of the two sides vis-à-vis each other and clarifying also the basis of the intercommunal talks in Cyprus, the Greek Cypriot side has been at pains to run away from it through a mix of negative actions both at home and abroad.

Turkish Cypriot side, it should be recalled, welcomed and expressed its commitment to all aspects of resolution 649 (1990), considering it as a step in the right direction.

The Greek Cypriot side's immediate grudging response to resolution 649 (1990) has gradually assumed the position of an open and active hostility towards it. By its unilateral and illegal application to the European Community, the Greek Cypriot side has aimed to deal a serious blow to the process of negotiations through undermining the basis of the negotiations for a federal settlement, set out in resolution 649 (1990). The balance and purport of resolution 649 (1990) was thus destroyed.

A demonstrative case in point, that the Greek Cypriot side has no intention of acceding to the terms of resolution 649 (1990) and that they will do anything in order to prevent the situation being seen, and considered, in the light of resolution 649 (1990), has been the reaction of the Greek Cypriot leadership to Your Excellency's report (S/21932) on Cyprus of 7 November 1990.

Evidently, your reference in paragraph 8 of this report to an action plan based on your conviction that "resolution 649 (1990) confirmed and clarified the lines along which a solution was to be sought and that it provided the basis for proceeding with the work" towards a comprehensive settlement, has stirred the Greek Cypriot side. The Greek Cypriot leadership, most notably former Greek Cypriot leader Mr. Kyprianou and the Speaker of the Greek Cypriot House of Representatives, Mr. Lyssarides, have denounced resolution 649 (1990) as not constituting a basis for negotiations.

In public pronouncements, Mr. Lyssarides has described resolution 649 (1990) as a deviation from the rightful track the Cyprus problem should be set upon and in an address to his party on 2 December 1990, he stated, "we are unwillingly sliding towards such a situation that, the day will come when we are face to face with awesome dilemmas ... Security Council resolution 649 (1990) is a classic example of

such a dilemma" (Greek Cypriot daily, Simerini of 3 December 1990). This statement encapsulates the Greek Cypriot mentality towards resolution 649 (1990).

Mr. Vassiliou's latest visit to Athens and the outcome of his talks with the Greek Government dashed any lingering hope of the Greek side returning to the right course. It is striking that, while some other Security Council resolutions were explicitly mentioned by the Greek and Greek Cypriot leaders, no reference at all was made to resolution 649 (1990) and the principles and concepts embodied therein. Instead, it was decided that every international forum will henceforth be abused, together with a pledge to continue on the path of confrontation.

It goes without saying that the Greek Cypriot leadership continues to create further obstacles to the resumption of the intercommunal talks in full contravention of the operative paragraph 5 of resolution 649 (1990) which called on "the parties concerned to refrain from any action that could aggravate the situation". It is also noteworthy that Mr. Vassiliou has also made it clear that the Greek Cypriot side will continue with its arms buildup by integrating its military structure at a higher level to that of Greece.

In view of the highly discouraging state of affairs in the Greek camp, I would like to feel confident that Your Excellency will do whatever is necessary in order to stop the Greek Cypriot side from totally destroying the very basis of the talks and from rendering meaningless your mission of good offices.

(Signed) Dr. Kenan ATAKOL
Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Defence

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22029
20 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that early this week U.S. warships intercepted a Sudanese vessel (Dongola) while heading to Port Sudan from the port of Agaba in Jordan and forced it back to Agaba.

The vessel was carrying three hundred cars belonging to Sudanese expatriates in Kuwait.

The Government of Sudan hereby expresses its strong protest against this unjustified action and demands the immediate release of the vessel and its cargo.

The Government of the Sudan, furthermore, would like to know from H.E. the Secretary-General whether transportation of personal property of nationals from Iraq and Kuwait falls within the provisions of relevant Security Council resolutions on sanctions against Iraq.

I would be very much grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Salah M. ALI
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

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A/45/905
S/22030
21 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 23 and 35
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 19 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the communiqué issued by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the decision of the Israeli Government to deport four Palestinian citizens from the occupied Gaza Strip.

I request you to have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 23 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amre MOUSSA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Communiqué

An official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed Egypt's rejection of the decision of the Government of Israel to deport four Palestinian citizens from the occupied Gaza Strip.

The spokesman added that this measure, which clearly reveals the intention of the Government of Israel to revert to the implementation of the policy of the deportation of Palestinian citizens, represents not only a violation of Palestinian human rights but also a clear breach of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

The official spokesman emphasized Egypt's conviction that such repressive measures on the part of the Government of Israel will not prevent the Palestinian people from proceeding with the uprising and resistance to Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Arab Jerusalem.

The spokesman called upon Israel to desist from the implementation of this policy and to move towards the construction of bridges of confidence that constitute the basic element in the move towards a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem through negotiations between the two parties to the conflict, based on the resolutions of the Security Council and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, first and foremost, the right to self-determination.

UNITED
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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/22031
21 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CENTRAL AMERICA: EFFORTS TOWARDS PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of Security Council resolution 637 (1989). Its purpose is to give the Council an up-to-date account of my efforts to promote the achievement of a negotiated political solution to the conflict in El Salvador.

2. In my previous report to the General Assembly and to the Security Council of 8 November 1990, 1/ I reported on the agreements between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) arrived at, under my auspices, at Geneva on 4 April 1990, on the framework for the negotiations, and in Caracas on 21 May 1990, on the agenda and calendar of the negotiating process. 2/ I also referred to the agreement on human rights 3/ reached at San José, Costa Rica, on 26 July 1990, between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN, which contains detailed commitments to guarantee unrestricted respect for human rights in El Salvador, and which provides for the establishment of a United Nations verification mission under a Director appointed by the Secretary-General and with such verification personnel as might be necessary.

3. Since then, several direct meetings have been held between representatives of the Government and of FMLN, with the participation of my Representative, and my Representative has made frequent trips to meet with President Cristiani and senior commanders of FMLN. He has also been in contact on numerous occasions with leaders and representatives of a wide array of political parties, social organizations and religious leaders in El Salvador. For my part, I met this fall with President Cristiani, as well as with a high-level delegation of FMLN. The question of El Salvador has been addressed frequently in my meetings with leaders of Member States who are in a position to assist in my efforts, as envisaged in the Geneva Agreement.

4. As pointed out in my report to the General Assembly, 1/ while significant progress has been accomplished to date, as exemplified by the San José Agreement on Human Rights, it is fair to say that considerable problems have been encountered in reaching agreement on armed forces, the most sensitive and complex issue on the agenda. Given the pervasive character of this question, it has not been possible

to make substantive progress on other items. Conscious of the need to reinvigorate the negotiating process, the two parties, with the participation of my Representative, agreed on 31 October 1990 at a direct meeting held at Mexico City to make adjustments in the mechanics of the negotiations, laying greater emphasis on the active role of my Representative and on the confidential nature of the process. While procedural improvements by themselves will not solve the remaining problems, whose magnitude must not be underestimated, I am persuaded that, given the necessary political will, coupled with support from outside Powers in a position to assist me in my efforts, the goal of peace in El Salvador can be achieved in the not too distant future.

5. I now wish to refer to my statement, made in informal consultations on 3 August 1990, the full text of which is annexed hereto, as well as to the letter that I addressed to the President of the Security Council on 29 August 1990 4/ and to his reply of 6 September 1990, 5/ which, inter alia, dealt with the verification tasks envisaged for the United Nations under the Geneva and Caracas agreements.

6. It will be recalled that, having regard to the complex and interrelated character of the tasks involved, I had put to the members of the Council the concept of an integrated operation to ensure proper co-ordination of operations on the ground and the rational use of resources, bearing in mind recent experience in undertakings of similar scale and complexity. In his letter dated 6 September 1990, 5/ the President of the Security Council conveyed to me the Council's concurrence with this concept.

7. The Caracas accord envisaged a series of synchronized agreements, and the verification mechanism under the San José Agreement was intended to enter into effect upon the cessation of the armed conflict. However, both parties have since signified their desire to have the human rights mechanism in place as soon as possible without waiting for other agreements to be concluded. I should emphasize that such a desire is in keeping with the objectives laid down in the Esquipulas II Agreement, 6/ which have received the endorsement of the Security Council in resolution 637 (1989), with its emphasis on democratization and respect for human rights as key components of the peace process. At the same time, the importance of international verification of Central American peace agreements has been underlined by the Central American Governments as well as in successive resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. At their recent meeting in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, the five Central American Presidents urged me to deploy the human rights verification mission without delay. Reference should be made in this respect to resolution 45/15, in which the General Assembly requested me to "continue to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to consolidate peace, especially by taking the measures necessary for the maintenance, establishment and effective functioning of the appropriate verification machinery".

8. I wish therefore to inform the Council of my intention shortly to request authorization to establish a United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador, hereinafter referred to as ONUSAL, with the task of monitoring agreements concluded between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN. Pending the conclusion of other agreements, I would recommend that, as a first step towards establishing this integrated operation, the human rights verification component of ONUSAL be

established as soon as the necessary preparations have been made on the ground and, in particular, the extent to which the tasks of the Mission can be conducted in the absence of a cease-fire has been determined; the personnel required for such a complex operation, for which no precedent exists in the annals of the United Nations, has been recruited; and satisfactory arrangements have been worked out with the Government and with FMLN to ensure the safe deployment and effective functioning of ONUSAL. I shall be dispatching to El Salvador, as early as practicable in 1991, a technical mission in order to assist me in preparing an operational plan for submission to the Council. Given the difficulty of the preparatory work involved and the positive contribution that the deployment of this mission is likely to make towards the achievement of the goals of the negotiating process as well as to the improvement of the human rights situation in El Salvador, I shall, when the time comes, urge the Council to take early action on my recommendation.

9. As regards the observation of the process leading up to the legislative and municipal elections in March 1991, members of the Council will note that the Geneva accord refers to verification by the United Nations of agreements reached between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN. No agreement at present exists between the parties for observation of the March 1991 elections by the United Nations. Under the circumstances, I am not in a position to recommend at this time that it be carried out. I should mention in passing that it is my understanding that the Organization of American States has decided to undertake the observation of the elections, although the criteria involved are different from those that apply for the United Nations.

10. I shall, at the appropriate time, seek the Council's authorization for the deployment of the other components of ONUSAL to cover verification of other political agreements that might be arrived at, as well as of a cease-fire, in keeping with the concept of a single, integrated operation in El Salvador as outlined by me at the Council's informal consultations on 3 August 1990 and reiterated in my letter of 29 August. 4/

11. Meanwhile I have taken steps to establish the preparatory office in El Salvador referred to in my 29 August letter, with which the Council has already concurred. The preparatory office is concentrating in particular on planning human rights verification activities, preparing procedures, establishing contacts with government agencies and non-governmental organizations and carrying out a public information programme.

Notes

1/ A/45/706-S/21931.

2/ Ibid., annexes I and II.

3/ A/44/971-S/21541.

4/ S/21717.

5/ S/21718.

6/ A/42/541-S/19085, annex.

Annex

Statement made by the Secretary-General in informal consultations on 3 August 1990

I wish to inform the members of the Security Council about progress made to date in relation to El Salvador.

You will recall that, on 4 April 1990, representatives of the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación National (FMLN) signed at Geneva, in my presence, an agreement to launch a negotiating process under my auspices in order to "end the armed conflict through political means as speedily as possible, promote the democratization of the country, guarantee unrestricted respect for human rights and reunify Salvadorian society".

Pursuant to the Agreement arrived at in Geneva, intensive efforts have been conducted, including three rounds of direct talks between representatives of the Government and of FMLN, with the active participation of my Representative, Mr. Alvaro de Soto, at Caracas from 16 to 21 May 1990, at Oaxtepec, Mexico, from 19 to 25 June 1990, and most recently at San José, Costa Rica, from 20 to 26 July 1990. Between the rounds of direct talks, in accordance with the Geneva Agreement, my Representative is in frequent communication with both sides, travelling to the region to meet with President Cristiani and members of the High Command of FMLN. Also, the Government and FMLN consult during these periods with Salvadorian political parties and social organizations. When my Representative visits San Salvador, he also meets with leaders of political parties and social organizations.

In the May round of talks at Caracas a general agenda and schedule for the negotiating process were agreed upon.

As had been agreed in Geneva, the initial objective of the process will be "to achieve political agreements for a halt to the armed confrontation and any acts that infringe the rights of the civilian population, which will have to be verified by the United Nations, subject to the approval of the Security Council".

The issues on which such political agreements need to be reached relate to the following:

(a) Armed forces;

(b) Human rights;

(c) Judicial system;

(d) Electoral system;

(e) Constitutional reform;

(f) Economic and social issues;

(g) Verification by the United Nations.

As agreed in the schedule, the Government and FMLN began to address the substantive issues on the agenda at the June meeting in Mexico, where the armed forces issue was addressed in depth, and human rights were discussed in a preliminary fashion.

At their recent meeting in San José, the Government and FMLN took up the armed forces question once again, but were not able to reach agreement.

Turning to human rights, the parties were able to agree on a text that contains detailed commitments to guarantee unrestricted respect for human rights in El Salvador, and that provides for the establishment of a United Nations verification mission under a Director appointed by the Secretary-General and with such verification personnel as may be necessary. The mission is to be given powers to take whatever legally permissible action it may deem appropriate for promoting and protecting human rights, as part of the intention to promote respect for and guarantee of such rights in El Salvador and to contribute towards improving those situations in which such respect and guarantee are not duly observed.

The text on human rights constitutes the first substantive achievement of the negotiating process. As stipulated in a footnote on the first page of the text, its implementation is subject to the package of political agreements to be negotiated for the achievement of the initial objective envisaged in the Agreement signed at Geneva, to which I referred earlier. I should therefore make it clear that I am not at present faced with a formal request to set up such a mission, nor am I at this stage making such a proposal to the Council.

At Caracas, the Government and FMLN had agreed that the initial objective should be achieved by the middle of September 1990, provided that the parties reach synchronized agreements with schedules for implementation, subject to verification as appropriate, so as to ensure that all the components of the initial objective are duly co-ordinated. It was also stated on that occasion that an additional advantage of that date was that it would help to ensure that the process leading to the legislative and municipal elections of March 1991 is conducted in an atmosphere of tranquillity, broad participation and freedom from intimidation.

Given the complexity and the pace of the negotiating process, it is not certain that it will be possible to meet the mid-September target date. Indeed, it is not possible to guarantee success at all. None the less, I wish to lay before the members of the Security Council the elements that are likely to be included in a proposal flowing from the targeted set of agreements and to say a few words about the way in which I would propose that the tasks be implemented. In this context, I remain most mindful of the fact that in resolution 637 (1989), the Security Council lent me its full support to continue my mission of good offices in consultation with the Security Council in support of the Central American Governments in their effort to achieve the goals set forth in the Guatemala Agreement, a/ and that in resolution 654 (1990), it specifically welcomed my efforts to promote the achievement of a negotiated political solution to the conflict in El Salvador.

Responsibilities devolving upon the United Nations as a result of the achievement of the initial objective established in the Geneva Agreement are likely to be considerable and to some extent innovative. If current trends continue, they would, in all probability, include the verification of a cease-fire, the monitoring of the electoral process and the verification of respect for human rights as described earlier. While the pending negotiations on the other points under discussion must be awaited, these tasks are being cast as essential and inseparable components of the peaceful solution to the Salvadorian conflict. They all fall clearly under the umbrella of the Guatemala Agreement of August 1987, which lays down the basis for the peace process in Central America and which received the endorsement of the Security Council.

These considerations, the need to ensure proper co-ordination of operations on the ground and to use resources rationally, as well as recent experience in undertakings of similar scale and complexity, lead me even at this stage to conclude that the operation would most appropriately be carried out as an integrated whole under the authority of the Security Council rather than as separate enterprises. It is against this background that I would be making proposals to the Council when the time comes and that I intend soon to send a technical mission to El Salvador to assess personnel and infrastructure needs on the ground.

Finally, I wish to inform you that the next round of direct talks will take place from 17 to 22 August at San José. My Representative will be in the region next week.

Notes

a/ A/42/521-S/19085.

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General Assembly Security Council

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A/45/906
S/22032
21 December 1990
ENGLISH
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 28
THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 17 December 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Declaration of Puntarenas (see annex), which was adopted on this date by the Presidents of the five Central American countries and to which is appended the Declaration on the situation in El Salvador, signed by the Presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The President of the Republic of Panama participated as an invited observer.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this note and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Cristián TATTENBACH
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations

(Signed) Ricardo CASTANEDA CORNEJO
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations

(Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN DE LEON
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations

(Signed) Roberto FLORES BERMUDEZ
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations

(Signed) Roberto MAYORGA CORTES
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations

ANNEX

Declaration of Puntarenas

The Central American Presidents, meeting in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, from 15 to 17 December 1990, and acting in accordance with the wishes of the peoples of the isthmus, declare Central America to be a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development. In this spirit, they reaffirm their commitment to the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America; their decision to strengthen relations of friendship, co-operation and good-neighbourliness; and their determination to improve the democratic systems in the region through Governments which have been elected by universal, equal, free and secret suffrage in each of the countries.

They declare that it is imperative to incorporate the irregular forces into the political process and to do away with violence. They express their commitment to protecting, defending and promoting human rights. They reiterate their decision to bring about reconciliation in the divided Central American societies.

They recognize that peace in Central America is one, undivided and indivisible, and that any situation of violence, wherever it occurs, has a negative impact on the entire region. Consequently, the countries of the region are bound by a legitimate concern and a mutual, inescapable duty of solidarity in their efforts to do away with all violent action and terrorism and their undertaking to overcome extreme poverty and promote sustained development, as an expression of the basic interdependence and the common origin and destiny of the countries of the isthmus. Accordingly, they commit themselves to the establishment of a new model of regional security.

They recognize that there must be no delay in developing education for peace and establishing a new regional ecological order. They declare their joint commitment to the protection of the environment, recognizing the responsibility they share with the developed countries for its preservation.

They take note of the report submitted by the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development and welcome the progress made in implementing the Central American Economic Plan of Action (PAECA). Likewise, they decide to continue to promote the establishment of a new kind of Central American integration, the aim being to make the region into a stronger economic bloc that can be integrated successfully into the global economy, through such measures as the following: liberalizing regional and extra-regional trade; pursuing a regional policy on prices and the supply of agricultural products in order to guarantee food security in Central America; supporting the development of the productive sectors through modernization and conversion programmes, specific proposals for resolving the serious debt problem facing our countries, and regional action to eliminate discriminatory barriers to our exports in other countries.

On the basis of these common principles and purposes, the Presidents agree as follows:

1. Renewing their commitment to strengthening democratic institutions in the isthmus, they decide to request the international community and the relevant specialized agencies to increase co-operation aimed at enhancing the functioning of the various branches of government and, in particular, improving the administrative and judicial machinery guaranteeing the full observance of basic human rights.

They draw particular attention to their decision to promote and strengthen the full observance of human rights, and agree on the advisability of establishing regional programmes to publicize and provide education on human rights.

2. They express their profound satisfaction at the extent of the progress achieved in the negotiations being carried out by the Security Commission with a view to concluding a Central American agreement on security, verification and the control and limitation of weapons and military forces, despite the obstacle created by the persistence of armed actions by the irregular groups still operating in the region. They also express their approval of the work being done by the Security Commission on the establishment of measures of trust between the Central American States.

They underscore the advances made in such important matters as the establishment of inventories and factor charts, the deactivation of land mines or the disarming of civilians, in accordance with internal laws, and the prevention of incidents; and they acknowledge the co-operation being provided by the international community through the United Nations and the Organization of American States in political and material support of such work.

They instruct the Security Commission to fulfil as soon as possible the mandate conferred upon it in Antigua, Guatemala, with a view to the adoption of an agreement on security, verification and the control and limitation of weapons and military forces.

They uphold the firm determination of their Governments to continue to take whatever action is necessary to strengthen the decisions of the legitimately constituted civil authorities. They underscore the importance in this respect of enabling the armed forces and the security forces to take specific action to support the civil authorities in the implementation of social welfare and environmental protection projects.

In this context, the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras praise the successful efforts of the Government of Nicaragua to effect the gradual reduction of its army, in the spirit of strengthening civil institutions and freeing resources for economic and social development.

3. They agree, in the light of the reports of the Executive Commission, to establish a committee to verify the political commitments entered into as part of the Esquipulas process. This committee shall be composed of five Central American citizens of recognized independence, suitability and prestige, to be appointed by

the National Reconciliation Commissions. Within the next 60 days, each Commission shall inform its respective Government regarding the person it has selected to be a member of the committee. The Presidents also agree to request the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States, in consultation with the Executive Commission, to identify the areas in which technical support and advice are to be provided to the committee.

The Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua recognize the work done by the National Reconciliation Commission of Guatemala to develop a broad national dialogue aimed at reaching consensus agreements and proposals that will meet the aspirations of all sectors of society. In addition, they underscore its effectiveness in sponsoring, with the support of the Government of Guatemala, talks between the various sectors of Guatemalan society and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatamalteca (URNG), in an attempt to persuade the latter to abandon armed struggle and be incorporated into the peaceful political process.

4. The Presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua have reviewed with the President of El Salvador the developments in the armed conflict in that country and the current status of the ongoing dialogue between the Government of El Salvador and the irregular armed force of the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional.

In connection with the latest outbreak of hostilities, they are issuing the Declaration on the situation in El Salvador appended hereto.

The Presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, together with the President of El Salvador, reiterate their resolute support for the efforts being made by the United Nations Secretary-General on behalf of peace in El Salvador, and they express their firm hope that steps can shortly be agreed and taken under international supervision to ensure a cease-fire and its verification by United Nations observers and the establishment, as agreed, of machinery to guarantee the observance of human rights and bring about full national reconciliation in El Salvador.

5. They are following closely the action taken over the past year by the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) and underscore the positive contribution it has made to the current situation in the region. They express their satisfaction that Security Council resolution 675 (1990) has extended the mandate of ONUCA for six months.

They have carefully studied the recommendations made by the Security Commission at its latest meeting in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, aimed at strengthening and bringing up to date the organizational and operational structure of ONUCA and making the verification activities more effective. They agree to support the recommendations that relate to communication, investigation, detection and co-ordination, and they instruct the Executive Commission to initiate talks as soon as possible with the United Nations Secretariat with a view to the early adoption of the aforementioned recommendations and the establishment of an arrangement whereby the United Nations will keep the Executive Commission regularly informed about ONUCA activities.

6. In order that the continuing flows of returnees, displaced persons and refugees into individual countries of the region may receive proper attention, including protection and assistance, they urge that specific international support should be organized for the implementation of the proposals and projects submitted by the Governments which convened the first international meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees (CIREFCA), held at United Nations Headquarters, New York on 27 and 28 June 1990, and that the contributions pledged should be used as soon as possible to assist these groups of people.

7. They agree on the need to maintain and strengthen direct relations between the European Community and Central America, with the participation of the Group of Three, using the existing institutional forums.

They also express the hope that the forthcoming seventh meeting at San José, which is scheduled to be held at Managua on 18 and 19 March 1991, will mark an advance in the new stage of enhanced dialogue and co-operation between the two regions.

Underscoring the importance of their forthcoming meeting with the President of Mexico, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, they decide to take whatever steps are needed to strengthen the relations of the region with the United Mexican States and express the hope that agreements reflecting this goal can be signed at the meeting.

They express their firm conviction that the new initiatives towards co-operation in the region will complement the bilateral and multilateral programmes currently in effect and will help to expand co-operation in development and trade.

8. Aware that education and development are related, they reaffirm their decision to examine and meet the conspicuous needs that still exist in the region. Accordingly, they support the steps taken towards educational and cultural co-ordination in Central America aimed at expanding and strengthening pre-school education programmes, adopting strategies to broaden educational coverage, improve the quality of education, enhance the retention of pupils in schools and promote education, encouraging adult education programmes and policies and furthering education for peace, democracy, development, health and the environment.

They draw particular attention to the imperative need to eliminate illiteracy in the region, and to revise the educational curricula adapting them to the requirements of development and to the cultural conditions of the different sectors of the population.

9. Convinced that the current state of the region's natural resources and environment requires drastic action in terms of preservation, renewal and development, supported by the most emphatic political decisiveness, they recognize the work done by the Central American Commission on Environment and Development and decide to instruct it to identify, within 90 days, the measures needed to:

(a) Prepare a strategy for an "external debt for nature swap", with the aim of financing sustained development and environmental protection programmes, using as a starting-point the Americas Initiative and the commercial and bilateral debt of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE). Such a strategy should envisage both the incurring of commercial debts and the write-off of institutional debts;

(b) Establish a regional inventory and a regional census of zones and species requiring special protection, and identify the protected areas to be given priority in border areas;

(c) Draw up a regional agreement setting out the commitment of the Central American Governments to the establishment of a system of protection for the zones and species that have been identified, to be submitted for consideration at the forthcoming Summit Meeting of the Central American Presidents;

(d) Work out, in co-ordination with the Executive Commission, a Central American position and strategy for the next World Conference on the Environment, to be held in Brazil in 1992;

(e) Participate actively in the negotiations being held within the United Nations system with a view to concluding international conventions on biological diversity and climatic change;

(f) Take practical steps to keep the Central American countries from becoming dumps for toxic waste and for substances harmful to the environment and to health, and to prevent the transit of such wastes and substances through the area, observing the stipulations of the Basel Convention on the subject;

(g) Ensure prompt and full application of the plan of action for forestry in Central America and the respective national plans in each country; and

(h) Devise machinery to establish national environment and development funds as well as a regional fund, and begin work on formulating a Central American agenda on the environment and development, in co-ordination with the national bodies dealing with the matter.

The Presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua share the conviction expressed by the President of Costa Rica, Rafael Angel Calderón Fournier, to the effect that concerted international action must be taken to confront the environmental challenges from a standpoint of respect for nature and solidarity and harmony with it. They enthusiastically give their support to the proclamation concerning a new ecological order of international co-operation, issued on 14 December 1990 by the President of Costa Rica, and they appeal to the international community to support with concrete action the initiatives set forth in that proclamation, because they are convinced that they constitute a basis for ensuring that human beings will enjoy their right to a liveable world.

10. In view of the threat which drug trafficking poses to the stability of the democratic institutions and the well-being of the Central American peoples, they resolve:

(a) To appeal to the international community to step up action to combat drug trafficking by means of technical and financial co-operation and to work effectively towards the adoption of a multilateral policy covering drug production, consumption, processing and trafficking, the control of chemical precursors and related financial offences;

(b) To emphasize the importance of improving the economic and social conditions of developing countries as a means of curtailing illicit drug production or trafficking in those countries, and to stress the need for the industrialized countries to take appropriate steps to eradicate the illicit consumption of drugs and to control the production and export of the chemical substances used in their processing;

(c) To take joint and co-ordinated action to prevent, control and eradicate drug trafficking, and to adopt all possible measures to enhance the effectiveness of the agreement on regional co-operation for the eradication of illicit traffic in drugs;

(d) To establish a Central American standing commission for the eradication of the production, consumption, trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and of related crimes, particularly money laundering and the legalization of other property, and to set up regional machinery for the exchange of information on this subject;

(e) To co-ordinate monitoring at borders and by customs with a view to averting illicit traffic in drugs;

(f) To draw up a regional educational programme to prevent illicit drug consumption and use;

(g) To instruct the appropriate bodies in each of the countries to carry out the actions enumerated, and to request support from the international community and the specialized agencies for the same purpose.

11. Convinced that it is necessary in the strictest respect for human rights, to regulate and organize migratory flows in, to and from the region, they agree to instruct the respective national authorities to take concerted action with a view to:

(a) Harmonizing legislation and systems relating to migration in the region;

(b) Eliminating visas in diplomatic and official passports, and establishing a multiple visa for merchants, businessmen, professionals and other categories of persons;

(c) Establishing a common format for passports and migrants' documents;

(d) Designing a Central American information system for migration control.

12. They express their support to the Central American Parliament in recognizing its potential value as a political forum which will strengthen the ongoing dialogue and the search for regional consensus. They urge the European Economic Community to make good its offer of assistance for the holding of parliamentary elections to those countries which require it.

13. They recognize and emphasize that the meetings of First Ladies of Central America, initiated in 1987, make an important and meaningful contribution to the peace process and to the development of the social and cultural agenda for the region in such major areas as assistance to children affected by armed violence in Central America, responsibility towards adolescent women, and the situation of women and families in the region. They accordingly instruct their Governments, subject to the co-ordinating role of the First Ladies, to adopt and implement wherever possible the conclusions and recommendations formulated at those meetings. At forthcoming summits, the First Ladies will play an active part in the consideration of the social agenda.

14. The Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras express their belief that the economic and social problems of Nicaragua must be dealt with as a matter of urgency and in the spirit of generosity which the circumstances require, since otherwise there may be a serious deterioration in the democratic processes of that nation and in the stability of the region in general. In this regard, they consider that what is required in order to surmount those problems, in addition to the support provided by the Central American countries, which serves as an example, is a vast and effective programme of assistance by the international community.

15. They therefore instruct the Central American forum for consultations and co-ordination in external debt matters, consisting of the Ministers of the Treasury and the Presidents of the Central Banks of the countries of the region, to devise, by 31 March 1991 at the latest, an exceptional and realistic way of dealing with Nicaragua's interregional debt.

In the light of the above, they urge the international community to implement an emergency plan of an exceptional nature which would provide additional resources designed to effect immediate solutions to the problems which Nicaragua faces in the areas of external indebtedness and financing for the economic and social reconstruction of the country. They also request the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank to assume joint responsibility for co-ordinating and executing a programme to surmount above-mentioned problems.

16. Considering the importance to the socio-economic development of the region of securing greater openness and effective participation in international trade, they instruct the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development to draw up a Central American policy of tariff and customs alignment which would be

compatible with the policies for the regional development of external openness and to modernize the instruments used as its basis.

To enable the countries to achieve uniformity in a gradual, concurrent and concerted process, they set the following time-limits:

(a) 31 March 1991, for the establishment of the parameters of the negotiation;

(b) 31 May 1991, for the general tariff review and the entry into effect of the tariffs on which there is consensus;

(c) 31 December 1992, for the conclusion of the negotiations and the entry into effect of the uniform tariff;

(d) 31 December 1991, for the adoption of the tariff nomenclature known as the "harmonized system" and of the Central American Anti-Dumping Code.

They further instruct the Executive Council of the General Treaty of Central American Economic Integration to take any necessary steps to ensure that regional commitments pertaining to tariffs and customs are honoured.

17. In view of the urgent need for the Central American countries to develop and transform the productive sectors, and as a complement to the tariff policy to be adopted, they instruct the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development, acting in co-ordination with the sectors concerned, to draw up within three months a regional programme for the conversion and modernization of the productive sectors, without prejudice to the actions being carried out at the national level. This programme shall be implemented from June 1991 onwards.

To this end, they appeal to the international financial institutions, especially the Inter-American Development Bank (BID), to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme.

18. They approve the proposed regional science and technology policy elaborated by the competent authorities and commission them to prepare the profile of an investment plan for the scientific and technological development of the productive sectors which is designed to strengthen those sectors' competitiveness and capacity for technological innovation and is in keeping with the regional programme for the conversion and modernization of the sectors and the regional tariff programme.

19. With a view to facilitating the exchange of basic agricultural products among the countries of the region and guaranteeing food security, they instruct the Ministers of Agriculture, acting in co-ordination with the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development and other competent authorities, to:

(a) Give priority, in the harmonization of agricultural policies, to the question of regional pricing and marketing of basic commodities, with a view to meeting fully consumer demand within the region;

(b) Take immediate action to design a system for the exchange of information on markets;

(c) Draw up regional policies on the administration of grants, the purchase and sale of products and inputs, concessional imports, and negotiations concerning surpluses and deficits of basic agricultural commodities.

Draft agreements in this area are to be submitted to the summit convened to deal principally with agricultural development.

20. Aware that external public debt has become a serious obstacle to the economic and social development of the Central American countries, is holding back efforts to achieve peace and democracy in the region and, furthermore, is a joint responsibility of debtors and creditors, urge that:

(a) The multilateral financial institutions, acting in concert with the competent authorities of the Central American countries, establish as a matter of urgency comprehensive machinery for rescheduling loans, reducing the effective level of payments and arranging terms compatible with the economic realities of the countries of the region; and modify the existing procedures for administering, approving and disbursing loans with a view to making them more flexible and expeditious;

(b) The creditor countries forgive a significant portion of the debt, the remainder to be refinanced on concessional terms, with payment in national currency, so that it can be used to finance projects designed to reduce poverty, generate foreign exchange and protect the environment.

They further instruct the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development, acting together with the competent authorities, to establish machinery for devising solutions to the problem of indebtedness among the countries of the region.

21. They express their support for the actions taken by the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development and by the Presidents of the Central Banks for the restructuring and revitalization of the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE), with a view to its becoming the financial instrument required to reactivate the economies of the countries in the region, on the basis of the documents containing the country representatives' descriptions of the current situation and the outlook for BCIE (15 and 16 October and 11 December 1990, Washington, D.C.).

In reference to the foregoing, they urge the Inter-American Development Bank to finance the countries of the region so that they will be able to capitalize BCIE and make it financially sound.

22. They express their satisfaction with the entry into force of the new regional payments system, designed to give impetus to Central American regional trade. They undertake to operate it according to sound financial standards and are particularly grateful for the support which the European Economic Community (EEC) has provided

for its functioning within the framework of the Community's co-operative relations with Central America.

23. They express their appreciation to the European Economic Community for the granting of special treatment under the generalized system of preferences (GSP) to four Latin American countries in support of their struggle against drug production and trafficking. As this decision places the Central American countries at a disadvantage, they urge EEC to extend, without delay, the same benefits as were granted to those nations to the products exported by the Central American countries.

They also instruct their Ministers for Foreign Affairs to make arrangements with EEC for the extension of those benefits to the Central American countries.

24. Considering that, within the framework of co-operation between EEC and the Central American isthmus, the banana has been recognized as important in the trade between the two regions and as vital to the economies of the area, they reiterate the urgency, as part of the negotiations being conducted in the current round of multilateral negotiations and the strategy for a single European market in 1992, that the banana be guaranteed exemption from import levies and quotas.

25. They reiterate their satisfaction at the Americas Initiative proposed by the President of the United States of America, George Bush. The source of high hopes for the economic development of Central America, the Americas Initiative advocates a system of free trade, the promotion of investments in the region and the adoption of debt conversion arrangements designed to foster environmental protection.

In this connection, they urge the Congress of the United States of America to support the Initiative.

At the same time, they instruct the competent authorities of their countries to establish machinery for consultations and co-ordination for the purpose of signing with the United States of America a treaty on fair trade with the region, stimulating greater flows of investment to Central America and developing environmental impact projects. The foregoing is without prejudice to activities promoted by individual countries.

26. They welcome the proposal to establish the Association for Democracy and Development in Central America (ADD), which would serve as a forum for strengthening peace and democracy and contributing to the economic development of Central America.

They believe that Central America's leading role in the Association is of vital importance and that the management of such an Association must be broadly based, as evidenced by standards of equality and the equitable representation of all its participants.

They instruct the Executive Commission, composed of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, and the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development to work together in adopting measures and making arrangements for the establishment of ADD.

In order for this initiative to be effective and designed to fulfil the above-mentioned purposes, they urge the Inter-American Development Bank to co-ordinate the work of a regional consultative group, with the participation of international organizations, co-operation agencies and donor countries, whose purpose would be to support the Central American countries in establishing conditions which would facilitate the attainment of common social, political and economic goals.

27. They express their satisfaction at the intention of Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela to launch national and regional projects which would identify and develop new sources of energy, thereby helping to reduce the Central American countries' dependency on oil, which is particularly heavy in times of crisis.

28. They express their appreciation for the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations to extend the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation (PEC) for another three years. They also urge the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to approve the request submitted by the region and to grant the amount sought, which would enable PEC to continue functioning as a fundamental source of support for the development of the area, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of funded programmes and deepening relations between the Plan and the isthmus countries. In order to give economic and technical substance to the priorities of PAECA, they reiterate their appeal that the secretariat of PAECA should be established in a country of the region.

29. They welcome the favourable treatment granted by the friendly nations of Mexico and Venezuela in the matter of the payment of oil bills by Central American countries and express their hope that the relations thus far established in the current economic context of the oil crisis be consolidated in lasting ties of co-operation, promotion of investments and increased trade.

30. They recognize the importance of the recent establishment of the Mexican Commission for Co-operation with Central America both to integration efforts and to the implementation of measures for the strengthening of trade relations between Mexico and Central America.

31. They recognize the progress achieved in the implementation of PAECA, according to the report submitted to the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development, including: an analysis of the legal framework for integration by the Commission of Jurists; the entry into force of the regional payments system; some important preliminaty steps towards the signing of an interim multilateral free trade agreement between Honduras and the other countries of the region; the launching of physical infrastructure programmes; the streamlining of regional transport and customs procedures; the harmonization of regional policies in priority areas of the agricultural sector; the elaboration of a proposal on the regional policy and programme for science and technology; and progress regarding the environment and development.

32. They instruct the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development, acting in compliance with the provisions of PAECA and working together

with the competent authorities, to complete the following tasks no later than 31 December 1991:

(a) Formulation of a regional tourism policy, based on the development of the natural and cultural heritage;

(b) Study of the feasibility of a flexible air space policy based on negotiation;

(c) Elaboration of a plan for the regional development of fisheries;

(d) Review and adjustment of the mechanisms for achieving the free movement of cultural property in the region;

(e) Adoption of a regional programme for the development of the productive sectors of society;

(f) Adoption of a regional housing and human settlements programme;

(g) Development of a programme for airport facilities.

They are grateful for the active participation of all sectors and organizations involved in PAECA and urge the competent authorities to pursue their efforts to implement PAECA and this Declaration.

33. In view of the importance of the institutional and legal basis of Central American integration, they instruct the Ministers concerned to submit to this forum at the next summit a proposal for a basic regulatory framework which would legitimize and guarantee the legal security required to strengthen the integration process.

34. With the aim of enhancing the presence of Central American countries in international organizations and of heightening the importance of the regional group within those organizations, they agree to establish machinery for co-ordinating votes and candidacies, based on a strict rotation system in putting forward nominations for offices, posts, venues and membership in bodies of the inter-American system and the United Nations system, including agencies and specialized agencies. In this connection, they instruct the Executive Commission and the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development to set up the above-mentioned machinery.

35. They reaffirm the mandate whereby the various forums already established are to regulate, promote and facilitate the implementation of the agreements, as well as to carry out their principal function which is to verify, control and follow up all commitments set forth in the Guatemala Procedure and subsequent Declarations.

They further agree to the following additional institutional arrangements, designed to systematize and strengthen the organization and co-ordination of summits:

(a) Presidential meetings shall take place semi-annually in the months of June and December. They will be preceded by a preparatory meeting of the Executive Commission and the Ministers responsible for regional integration and development, which shall be attended by Ministers and authorities responsible for other areas of government, as required in order to prepare summit agendas;

(b) The host country of the summit shall act as secretariat thereof through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the six months following the summit, in order to facilitate the analysis and dissemination of documents and relations with third countries and international organizations. In this connection, the host country shall be the spokesman for Central America during the corresponding six-month period.

Future host countries, by rotation, shall be as follows:

January-June 1991 ... Costa Rica
July-December 1991 ... El Salvador
January-June 1992 ... Honduras
July-December 1992 ... Nicaragua
January-June 1993 ... Guatemala

(c) The secretariat of the summit shall transmit the reports, conclusions and recommendations of the summits to the appropriate forums and to the Executive Commission for the Proceedure, with a view to ensuring effective and co-ordinated action thereon.

36. They welcome the proposal put forward by the Rio Group at its last meeting, held at Caracas, Venezuela, that Central America should participate in the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action and agree to send their representatives in accordance with the order of rotation established.

37. They reaffirm their gratitude for the efforts and progress made by the Government of the Republic of Panama in the domestic consultative process taking place there, with a view to determining whether it should strengthen its economic ties with the Central American isthmus.

They also welcome with deep satisfaction the clear statements by the Government of Panama that it will participate to a greater extent in the Central American political and economic forums and strengthen its ties with regional organizations.

38. Recognizing the significant support given to the cause of peace and international détente by the President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mikhail Gorbachev, recipient of the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize, and in the conviction that his visit to Central America would help to highlight the importance of the cause of peace and democracy in the region and strongly promote it, they agreed to invite him to pay an offical visit to Central America.

39. The Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, in view of the fact that the term of the President of Guatemala, Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo is drawing to a close, express their gratitude for the fundamental role he has played in favour of regional peace and emphasize that it was his initiative which brought together the five Central American leaders in Esquipulas. They are grateful for his constant devotion and efforts throughout the process of Esquipulas II, whose importance in the attainment of the agreed objectives is such that Central Americans today can look forward to the prospect of achieving firm and lasting peace in the region.

40. Aware of the fundamental role of farming, forestry and cattle-raising activities in the economic and social life of the Central American countries, and convinced of the need to stimulate their development in every way, they agree that a forthcoming summit will be devoted primarily to the agricultural sector.

41. They agree to meet again during the first half of 1991 in the Republic of El Salvador.

42. The Presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama express their profound appreciation to the President of Costa Rica, Rafael Angel Calderón Fournier, and to the Costa Rican Government and people for the hospitality and kindness, which significantly contributed to the success of the meeting.

Puntarenas, 17 December 1990

Rafael Angel CALDERON FOURNIER
President of the Republic of Costa Rica

Marco Vinicio CEREZO AREVALO
President of the Republic of Guatemala

Alfredo CRISTIANI BURKARD
President of the Republic of El Salvador

Rafael Leonardo CALLEJAS ROMERO
President of the Republic of Honduras

Violeta BARRIOS de CHAMORRO
President of the Republic of Nicaragua

As invited Observer:
Guillermo ENDARA GALIMANY
President of the Republic of Panama

APPENDIX

Declaration on the situation in El Salvador

The Presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, together recognizing the current difficult situation in the fraternal Republic of El Salvador, recently exacerbated by the actions of FMLN, which have affected the civilian population and led to a qualitative escalation of the armed conflict in that country, as a result of the use by the aforementioned irregular force of sophisticated and highly destructive weapons,

Recalling the commitments entered into by the Central American Governments in the context of the Esquipulas process concerning an appeal for an end to hostilities and national reconciliation, whereby they are to: "make dialogue prevail over violence and reason over hatred"; "... initiate a dialogue with all the domestic political opposition groups which have laid down their arms and those which have availed themselves of the amnesty"; and "... take all necessary steps, in accordance with the constitution, to bring about a genuine cease-fire",

Acknowledging once again the efforts made since 1 June 1989 by the President of El Salvador, Alfredo Cristiani, with a view to ending the country's armed conflict by means of dialogue with FMLN, in order that the members of that irregular armed group may be fully incorporated into peaceful and democratic life,

Reiterating that peace, freedom, democracy and development must be based on respect for the constitutional juridical order, which may be amended only by established lawful means and by legitimate constituted authorities, representing as they do the sovereign will of the people freely expressed through the ballot-boxes,

Reaffirming the need for peace to be achieved by means of reconciliation and lasting stability throughout Central America, in order to permit the economic and social development sought by our peoples, at a time when such reconciliation and stability are obstructed by the existence of conflicts in some countries of the region, and particularly by the situation prevailing in El Salvador,

Bearing in mind that the process of dialogue to achieve peace between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN has been obstructed by persistent acts of violence on the part of FMLN,

Recalling the Declaration of San Isidro de Coronado, which included a decision, with a view to involving the international community as represented by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to invite the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure the resumption of the dialogue between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN, thereby facilitating its successful continuation,

Emphasizing and acknowledging the valuable contribution of Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, under whose auspices the Geneva Agreement of 4 April 1990 was signed, thus permitting the

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resumption of the El Salvador peace process, in which both parties assured him that there was "a serious intention and good faith" to seek a definitive settlement of the armed conflict through negotiations,

Drawing attention to the constructive position of the Government of El Salvador in accepting a wide-ranging and serious discussion of all items making up the agenda for that process, including the Salvadorian armed forces, whose existence is governed by the Constitution of that Republic,

Noting that the attitude of FMLN in the dialogue with the Government of El Salvador has made it more difficult to achieve a rapid solution of the armed conflict and that its new offensive constitutes a violation of the Agreement on Human Rights signed at San José, Costa Rica, on 26 July 1990, which includes a commitment to "... avoid any act or practice which constitutes an attempt upon the life, integrity, security or freedom of the individual",

Hereby agree:

1. To support the desire for peace, democracy and reconciliation of the fraternal Salvadorian people, as repeatedly expressed in recent years in honest and pluralistic electoral processes;

2. To acknowledge the political will of the constitutional Government of El Salvador and its determination to comply with the commitments to peace and democracy into which it entered under the "Procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America", Esquipulas II and subsequent declarations, particularly those adopted at Tela and San Isidro de Coronado;

3. To reaffirm their decisive support for the constitutional President of El Salvador, Alfredo Cristiani, in his repeated and continuous efforts to achieve peace through the peaceful procedures of dialogue and negotiation;

4. To reiterate the need for immediate and effective compliance with the Agreement on Human Rights and, in that context, to applaud the firm stand taken by President Alfredo Cristiani;

5. To acknowledge and emphasize the valuable steps taken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to achieving a peaceful solution of the Salvadorian conflict, which threatens the peace and stability of the entire Central American region;

6. To condemn the acts of violence carried out by FMLN, which have caused anguish and death among the Salvadorian civilian population and inflicted serious damage on that country's economic infrastructure;

7. To insist that FMLN immediately halt its use of sophisticated weapons such as those employed in the recent offensive, and to call on the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) to carry out, as soon as possible, the necessary investigations to identify the origin of those weapons;

8. To demand that FMLN observe an immediate and effective cease-fire, display its political will to enter, at the earliest opportunity, into agreements permitting the achievement of a firm and lasting peace in the region, refrain from obstructing the elections, abandon the armed struggle and join the democratic process;

Call upon all peoples and Governments of the world:

1. To give their firm and decisive support to this initiative of the Central American Governments, which is a legitimate expression of the will of its peoples;

2. To assist in persuading FMLN of the vital need to negotiate and take advantage of the desire for dialogue displayed by the Salvadorian Government with a view to achieving peace;

3. To help, as a means of promoting the process of bringing about a peaceful settlement of the conflict, to end all military, economic, logistical and publicity assistance which is still available to FMLN in various parts of the world;

And undertake, for their part:

1. To support, through their actions, the negotiations being held under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

2. To constitute themselves as a mechanism to follow up the process of negotiations between the Government and FMLN, with a view to promoting and contributing to the objectives proposed for the achievement of a peaceful and democratic solution in El Salvador, in accordance with the commitments entered into by the various parties;

3. To request, both directly and through Central American diplomatic missions, support for this initiative from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Security Council and the Secretary-General and the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States and to call upon Governments, churches and bodies of other sorts to provide it with political and material support;

4. To promote, in support of this peace process, an intensive joint co-ordinated campaign of diplomatic activity directed toward the international community, and particularly towards those Governments which have links with and interests in the Salvadorian conflict;

5. To instruct the Ministers for Foreign Affairs to agree promptly on the measures and steps to be taken in order to attain the objectives herein defined.

In conclusion, the Presidents agree on the vital need to put an immediate end to this conflict, whose continuation can only bring more grief to the Central American people.

Rafael Angel CALDERON FOURNIER
President
Republic of Costa Rica

Rafael Leonardo CALLEJAS
President
Republic of Honduras

Marco Vinicio CEREZO AREVALO
President
Republic of Guatemala

Violeta BARRIOS de CHAMORRO
President
Republic of Nicaragua

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LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

By resolution 669 (1990), adopted by the Security Council at its 2942nd meeting on 24 September 1990, the Council, recalling its resolution 661 (1990) of 6 August 1990, entrusted the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait with the task of examining requests for assistance under the provisions of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations, and making recommendations to the President of the Security Council for appropriate action.

By letters dated 19 and 21 December 1990 (S/22021 and Add.1), respectively, the Chairman of the Committee transmitted the recommendations of the Committee with regard to the following 18 States: Bulgaria, Tunisia, Romania, India, Yugoslavia, Lebanon, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Mauritania, Pakistan, the Sudan, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Bangladesh and the Seychelles.

At consultations of the whole of the Security Council held on 20 December 1990, it was decided to inform you of the above-mentioned recommendations of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to resolution 669 (1990) in connection with requests for assistance under the provisions of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations and to request you to implement the actions contained in the recommendations.

(Signed) Abdalla Saleh AL-ASHTAL
President of the Security Council

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UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22034
21 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request you to arrange for the issuance as a document of the Security Council of the annexed letters, addressed to you, in your capacity as President of the Council, respectively, by Mr. Lorenzo I. de Leon Guerrero, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and by the President of the Senate of Palau, dated 20 and 21 December 1990.

(Signed) Ricardo ALARCON de QUESADA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cuba to the United Nations

Annex I

Letter dated 20 December 1990 addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]

Dear Mr. President,

Re: Termination of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

I request that this letter be circulated as a Security Council document.

Word has just reached us that a draft resolution, recommending termination of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, might be acted upon as early as Thursday, December 20, 1990, by the United Nations Security Council. Speaking only for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, we do not support the Trusteeship Council resolution. The time is not ripe for Security Council termination of the Trust for our people. We still desire to have the protection afforded us by the United Nations.

Failure to maintain the Trusteeship Agreement may cause the United States to absorb further the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands into the Federal Government. It is the official position of this Government that the United States has failed the United Nations and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in not delivering on its trusteeship commitment. As of this date, the United States of America and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands continue to disagree sharply on key sovereignty questions. These questions directly affect our right to internal self-government. The United States has taken the position that the Northern Mariana Islands is a possession of the United States and the Federal Government may legislate for the people of the Commonwealth. The United States stoutly rejects our claim to local control of the marine resources that surround the islands within our exclusive economic zone. The United States asserts that the territorial sea of the Northern Mariana Islands is limited to three miles; that the Commonwealth has no submerged lands jurisdiction; and the United States owns the ocean resources in the exclusive economic zone surrounding the Northern Mariana Islands.

We are engaged in a formal consultative process with the United States over these sovereignty questions. We are pursuing our position with the United States and some progress has been made in these Covenant Section 902 consultations. But much remains to be done, and termination of the Trusteeship Agreement would be premature unless the United Nations means to abandon us. We trust this is not the case.

Since this question of termination is of the utmost importance to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, we ask that any final resolution on this matter be delayed. A postponement of any decision would give us the opportunity to present to the members of the Security Council our position on why at this time the Trusteeship Agreement should not be terminated.

/...

Although we have just learned of this proposed termination action by the Security Council, I am sending, by separate cover, a House Joint Resolution of the Fifth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature prepared in 1986, that addresses termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. The Joint Resolution should provide the members of the Security Council with additional facts to establish why we are concerned with the proposed Trusteeship Draft Resolution.

(Signed) Lorenzo I. DE LEON GUERRERO
Governor

cc: CNMI Resident Representative to the United States
United States Secretary of State, James Baker III
The Honourable Thomas R. Pickering, The Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations
Representatives to the Security Council
His Excellency Robert van Lierop, Ambassador of Vanuatu
His Excellency Perrence Obrian, Ambassador of New Zealand
Mr. Timothy Glidden, United States President's Special Representative to Covenant Section 902 Consultations

Annex II

Letter dated 21 December 1990 addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]

I request this be circulated as Security Council document.

We support the request of the Northern Mariana Islands and its Governor, Lorenzo I. Guerrero, to be excluded from the proposed resolution terminating the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement.

We believe that the concerns of Governor Guerrero concerning the colonial status of the Northern Marianas must be resolved prior to the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

Palau also has concerns that its self-government has recently been trampled upon by the administering authority, and requests the Security Council to take appropriate action.

(Signed) Joshua KOSHIBA
Senate President

cc: Vanuatu Representative

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22035
27 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 27 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the United States act of piracy against the peace ship Ibn Khaldun.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sabah Talat KADRAT
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 27 December 1990 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that at 0445 hours local time yesterday, 26 December 1990, seven warships belonging to the United States and British forces, one of them an aircraft carrier, committed a violent act of aggression against the peace ship Ibn Khaldun while it was sailing in the Arabian Sea off the island of Masirah on its way to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr. The peace ship, which is carrying women and children, was surrounded by the United States and British warships. In the meantime, a number of helicopters landed more than 450 United States and British troops armed with automatic rifles and grenades on the deck of the ship, whose crew refused to abandon the peace mission in which the ship is engaged. The assault troops struck members of the ship's crew and the women and children on board, threw tear-gas grenades and stun grenades at them and fired shots into the air in order to terrorize the women and children emissaries of peace who were on board. The attackers then proceeded to detain the captain and crew of the ship, to appropriate all of the ship's papers and to destroy all of the audio and video recording tapes that were in the possession of a number of journalists representing television stations in Iraq, Yemen and Japan. The attacking forces seized the ship and its cargo of medicines and milk for children.

With the slogan "Food and medicine are everyone's right", the peace ship Ibn Khaldun sailed from Algiers on 9 December on a tour of ports in the Arab countries carrying on board large groups of women and children from various parts of the world acting in solidarity with Iraqi women and Iraqi children, on whom an inhuman blockade has been imposed in violation of all international law and custom.

Accordingly, this blatant and cowardly act of aggression against the ship and against the women and children on board, who were seeking to express their belief in peace and humanity by providing medical and nutritional assistance to the children of Iraq, constitutes the most cogent proof of the immoral and evil character of the United States and British forces.

In accordance with your moral responsibilities under the Charter, we call upon you to declare your strong and explicit condemnation of this disgraceful act of aggression aimed at women and children who raised their voices for peace and humanitarian values and against the aggressive imperialist policy imposed on the people of Iraq by the United States and its allies. We further request you to take urgent measures to secure the safety of the women and children on board the ship and to ensure its safe arrival in Iraq.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

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GENERAL

A/45/909
S/22036
27 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 3 and 153
CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 26 December 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations circulated in document A/45/891 of 20 December 1990, I should like to state that that note constitutes a blatant exposure of Iraqi claims by the falsification of history that it evinces and by its reference to a so-called merger that has been rejected by the Kuwaiti people and by the entire international community as represented by the Security Council in its resolution 662 (1990), which considers Iraq's hostile actions null and void. Moreover, the note in question also reveals the extent of the ignorance that characterizes the policies of the Iraqi régime and its representatives in that, notwithstanding the statement that it makes, the General Assembly has yet to approve the report of the Credentials Committee.

The Iraqi reservation with respect to the report of the Credentials Committee constitutes in itself an act of open defiance of the will of the international community as represented by the Security Council. Immediately following the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, the Council adopted a series of firm resolutions in which it condemned the aggression, demanded the full, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressor, considered the annexation as null and void and as having no legal validity and called for the restoration of the legitimate Government of the State of Kuwait.

The Security Council has further adopted a series of firm resolutions totally isolating the Iraqi régime from the civilized international community, imposing on it a comprehensive economic embargo and holding it liable for compensation for the losses and damage caused to the Kuwaiti people and to residents in its territory by inhuman practices of unprecedented cruelty, such as the murder, torture and expulsion of Kuwaitis and the plunder of public and private funds and movable property, in a comprehensive process of destruction of Kuwait's economic and social structure.

In its aggression against and occupation and annexation of Kuwait and in its practices, which are an affront to mankind, the Iraqi régime has not only violated all of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations but also those of Islam, of the Pact of the League of Arab States, of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and international conventions such as the third and fourth Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, to say nothing of the principles of human rights.

Such a régime, against which the Security Council and the entire international community has taken an unprecedented stance and one that is commensurate with the scale of the aggression committed, truly has no right to be accorded a place among civilized countries and peoples. The presence of the representatives of this régime at the United Nations is an affront to the lofty principles on which the United Nations is founded.

Iraq's claim to represent the State of Kuwait renders the credentials of the Iraqi delegation itself legally invalid, and it is incompatible with the provisions of Security Council resolution 662 (1990). Accordingly, my country's delegation enters an official reservation with respect to the credentials of the Iraqi delegation.

That the Iraqi régime is not a peace-loving régime has been demonstrated by the crimes that it has committed against mankind, and it has no place in an organization whose edifice is built upon principles of law, justice and the love of peace.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 3 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad Saad AL SALLAL
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/910
S/22037
31 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 23, 35 and 75
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 31 December 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your immediate attention:

Over the week end, the Israeli occupying forces committed a new massacre against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories since 1967, including Jerusalem.

According to our information, the Israeli forces shot and killed nine Palestinians, and injured around three hundred during two days of indiscriminate shooting against Palestinian masses celebrating the Anniversary of Palestinian Revolution, especially in Rafah, Gaza and Khan Younis.

In the light of such dangerous escalation of the Israeli oppression against the Palestinian civilians, we believe that the international community represented by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Security Council has to act immediately in order to protect the Palestinian people and to implement relevant Security Council resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 681 (1990).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 23, 35 and 77, and of the Security Council.

Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Alternate Permanent Observer of
Palestine to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22038
31 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 31 DECEMBER 1990 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the continued encirclement of the peace ship Ibn Khaldun by United States and British naval forces.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sabah Talat KADRAT
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 31 December 1990 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the letter I addressed to you on 27 December 1990 concerning the barbaric act of aggression carried out by United States and British naval forces against the peace ship Ibn Khaldun, I have the honour to inform you that the ship remains surrounded by those forces outside the territorial waters of Oman.

Despite the ship's severe shortage of both drinking- and ablution water, the American authorities have refused to allow it to be supplied with water by the Omani authorities. The American forces are thus committing a further offence in the context of their inhumane aggression against the peace ship and the women and children on board.

My Government continues to await the urgent measures which I requested of you in my aforementioned letter. Your personal intervention, in accordance with your moral responsibilities under the Charter, now more than ever assumes the utmost importance.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22039
31 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES AND DEPUTY AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ELECTED FOR THE PERIOD 1991-1992

At its 36th meeting, on 1 November 1990, the General Assembly elected Austria, Belgium, Ecuador, India and Zimbabwe as non-permanent members of the Security Council for a term of two years, beginning on 1 January 1991.

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that, with regard to the representation of the members of the Security Council elected for the period 1991-1992, he has received the communications referred to hereunder.

Austria. Credentials from the President and from the Chancellor of Austria signed on 8 December 1990 stating that Mr. Peter Hohenfellner has been appointed representative of Austria on the Security Council, Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi deputy representative and Mr. Helmut Freudenschuss alternate representative.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Belgium. Credentials signed on 7 December 1990 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium stating that Mr. Paul Noterdaeme has been appointed representative of Belgium on the Security Council, Mr. Frans van Daele deputy representative and Mr. Alexis Brouhns, Mr. Alain Cools, Mr. Boudewijn Dereymaeker, Mrs. Jana Zikmundova and Mr. Raoul Delcorde alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Ecuador. Credentials signed on 15 November 1990 by the Minister for External Relations of Ecuador stating that Mr. José Ayala Lasso has been appointed representative of Ecuador on the Security Council, Mr. Abelardo Posso deputy representative and Mr. Mauricio Montalvo, Mr. José Sandoval and Mr. José Valencia alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

India. Credentials signed on 7 December 1990 by the Minister of External Affairs of India stating that Mr. C. R. Gharekhan has been appointed representative of India on the Security Council, Mr. Prabhakar Menon deputy representative and Mr. Dinesh K. Jain and Mr. Sudhir Vyas alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Zimbabwe. Credentials signed on 15 November 1990 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe stating that Mr. S. S. Mumbengegwi has been appointed representative of Zimbabwe on the Security Council, Mr. C. J. Tsokodayi and Mr. D. P. Mhlanga deputy representatives, and Mr. R. Zenenga, Mr. K. N. Malindi, Mr. G. M. Dzvairo and Mr. T. R. Chavunduka alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.